

# Selected BLS Economic Indicators



## Charleston

### Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and earnings data** for West Virginia, Charleston Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), and the United States. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** measures price changes, or inflation, for particular commodities and services at the retail level. The **Producer Price Index (PPI)** measures price changes, or inflation, for particular commodities and services at the wholesale level and is widely used by business firms as an escalator in long-term contracts. The **Employment Cost Index (ECI)** measures price changes, or inflation, of labor costs which includes wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits. The earnings data are from the **Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)**.

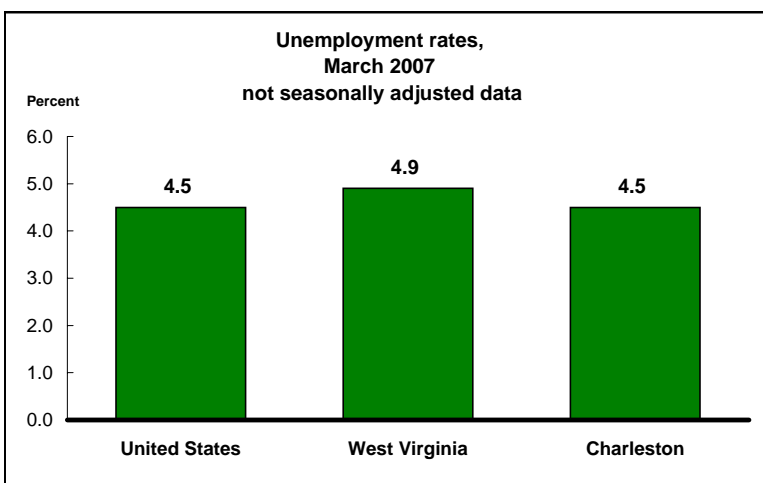
Consumer Price Index (1982-84) = 100	April 2006	April 2007	Percent change
<b>All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)</b>			
U.S. City Average	201.5	206.686	2.6
South	194.7	199.618	2.5
South (size class B/C)*	124.1	127.000	2.3
<b>Urban Wage Earners &amp; Clerical Workers (CPI-W)</b>			
U.S. City Average	197.2	202.130	2.5
South	192.1	196.730	2.4
South (size class B/C)*	122.9	125.598	2.2
<b>Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100)</b>	<b>April 2006</b>	<b>April 2007</b>	<b>Percent change</b>
Finished goods	160.7	165.8	3.2
All commodities	164.3	171.2	4.2
Industrial commodities	168.8	173.7	2.9

\*South cities with populations from 50,000 to 1,500,000 (December 1996=100)  
Most recent PPI numbers are preliminary.

### Unemployment levels, age 16 years and over (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Area	March 2006	March 2007	Net change	Percent change
United States	7,255.0	6,913.0	-342.0	-4.7
West Virginia	40.4	39.7	-0.7	-1.8
Charleston	6.5	6.3	-0.2	-2.9

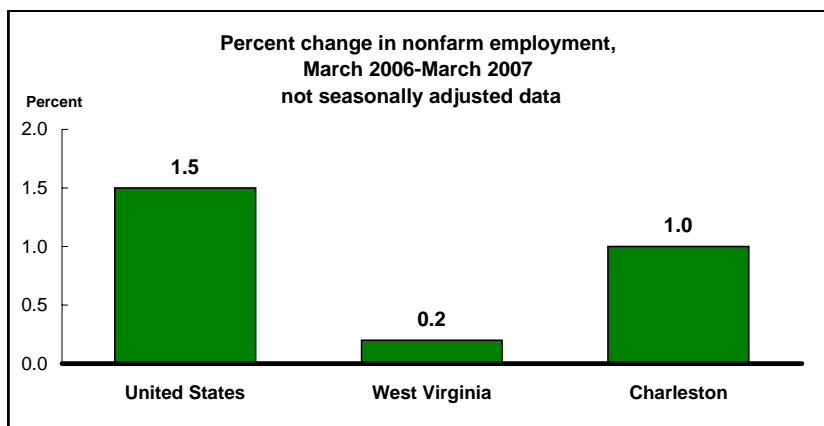
Most recent numbers are preliminary.



### Nonfarm payroll employment (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Area	March 2006	March 2007	Net change	Percent change
United States	134,868.0	136,835.0	1,967.0	1.5
West Virginia	750.4	751.9	1.5	0.2
Charleston	148.6	150.1	1.5	1.0

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



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**The Charleston, W. Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)**  
includes Boone, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, and Putnam Counties in West Virginia.